

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A self-expanding stent device comprising:

a small diameter skeletal tubular member having a thin wall and having a proximal end and a distal end; said wall of said tubular member comprised of a plurality of cells which are formed by a plurality of interconnected, non-inverted horizontal and inverted horizontal S-shaped members; said interconnected S-shaped members are generally parallel with the longitudinal axis of said tubular member; each interconnected S-shaped member has a proximal end, a distal end, a proximal intermediate section, and a distal intermediate section; and,

said interconnected S-shaped members having a repeating pattern comprised of a configuration in which said proximal end of each non-inverted horizontal S-shaped member is attached to said distal intermediate section of an adjacent inverted horizontal S-shaped member, ~~said distal end of each non-inverted horizontal S-shaped member is attached to said proximal intermediate section of another adjacent inverted horizontal S-shaped member, and~~ said proximal end of each inverted horizontal S-shaped member is attached to said distal intermediate section of an adjacent non-inverted horizontal S-shaped member, ~~and said distal end of each inverted horizontal S-shaped member is attached to said proximal intermediate section of another adjacent non-inverted horizontal S-shaped member.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 1, in which said tubular member has a small compressed diameter for delivery within a vessel and a normally biased expanded diameter for retaining said stent device against the walls of the

vessel; upon compression of said tubular member to its small diameter said ~~proximal~~
~~intermediate section of each non-inverted horizontal S-shape member pulls said distal end of~~
~~an adjacent inverted horizontal S-shaped member, said distal intermediate section of each~~
non-inverted horizontal S-shaped member pulls said proximal end of another adjacent
inverted horizontal S-shaped member, ~~said proximal intermediate section of each inverted~~
~~horizontal S-shaped member pulls said distal end of an adjacent non-inverted horizontal S-~~
~~shaped member,~~ and said distal intermediate section of each inverted horizontal S-shaped
member pulls said proximal end of another adjacent non-inverted horizontal S-shaped
member thereby causing said cells of said wall to collapse and cause said tubular member to
attain said small diameter.

Claim 3 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 1, wherein said tubular
member includes a proximal leg; said proximal leg extends generally parallel to the
longitudinal axis of said tubular member and is attached to the proximal end of said tubular
member; the proximal leg includes an attachment flange.

Claim 4 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 3, wherein said
proximal leg is biased outwardly from the longitudinal axis of said tubular member.

Claim 5 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 2, wherein said stent
device is constructed from a nickel-titanium alloy.

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Claim 6 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 3, wherein said proximal leg includes a radiopaque marker.

Claim 7 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 1, wherein said tubular member includes at least one distal leg; said distal leg extends generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of said tubular member and is attached to the distal end of said tubular member.

Claim 8 (original): A self-expanding stent device as defined in Claim 7, wherein said distal leg includes a radiopaque marker.

Claim 9-24 (canceled)